Numb. 136

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Deprendi miſerum eſt: Fabio vel Judice vincam. Hor.

From *Saturday February* 18. to *Tueſday February* 21. 1709.

White's Chocolate-houſe, Feb. 18.

The Hiſtory of Tom. Varniſh.

BECAUSE I have a profeſſed Averſion to long Beginnings of Stories, I will go into this at once, by telling you, That there dwells near the *Royal Exchange* as happy a Couple as ever entered into Wedlock. Theſe live in that mutual Confidence of each other, which renders the Satisfactions of Marriage even greater than thoſe of Friendſhip, and makes Wife and Husband the deareſt Appellations of human Life. Mr. *Ballance* is a Merchant of good Conſideration, and underſtands the World, not from Speculation, but Practice: His Wife is the Daughter of an honeſt Houſe, ever bred in a Family-Way, and has, from a natural good Underſtanding, and great Innocence, a Freedom which Men of Senſe know to be the certain Sign of Virtue, and Fools take to be an Encouragement to Vice.

Tom. Varniſh, a young Gentleman of the *Middle-Temple*, by the Bounty of a good Father, who was ſo obliging as to die, and leave him in his Twenty fourth Year, beſides a good Eſtate, a large Sum, which lay in the Hands of Mr. *Ballance*, had by this Means an Intimacy at his Houſe; and being one of thoſe hard Students who read Plays for Improvement in the Law, took his Rules of Life from thence. Upon mature Deliberation, he conceived it very proper, that he, as a Man of Wit and Pleaſure of the Town, ſhould have an Intrigue with his Merchant's Wife. He no ſooner thought of this Adventure, but he began it by an amorous Epiſtle to the Lady, and a faithful Promiſe to wait upon her at a certain Hour the next Evening when he knew her Husband was to be abſent.

The Letter was no ſooner received, but it was communicated to the Husband, and produced no other Effect in him, than that he joined with his Wife to raiſe all the Mirth they could out of this fantaſtical Piece of Gallantry. They were ſo little concerned at this dangerous Man of Mode, that they plotted Ways to perplex him without hurting him. *Varniſh* comes exactly at his Hour, and the Lady's well-acted Confuſion at his Entrance, gave him Opportunity to repeat ſome Couplets very fit for the Occaſion with very much Grace and Spirit. His Theatrical Manner of making Love, was interrupted by an Alarm of the Husband's coming; and the Wife, in a perſonated Terror, beſeeched him, if he had any Value for the Honour of a Woman that loved him, he would jump out of the Window. He did ſo, and fell upon Featherbeds placed on Purpoſe to receive him.

It is not to be conceived, how great the Joy of an amorous Man is, when he has ſuffered for his Miſtreſs and is never the worſe for it. *Varniſh* the next Day writ a moſt elegant Billet, wherein he ſaid all that Imagination could form upon the Occaſion. He violently proteſted, going out of the Window was no way terrible, but as it was going from her, with ſeveral other kind Expreſſions which procured him a ſecond Aſſignation. Upon his ſecond Viſit, he was conveyed by a faithful Maid into her Bed-chamber, and left there to expect the Arrival of her Miſtreſs. But the Wench, according to her Inſtructions, ran in again to him, and locked the Door after her to keep out her Maſter. She had juſt Time enough to convey the Lover into a Cheſt, before ſhe admitted the Husband and his Wife into the Room.

You may be ſure that Trunk was abſolutely neceſſary to be opened; but upon her Husband's ordering it, ſhe aſſured him, ſhe had taken all the Care imaginable in packing up the Things with her own Hand, and he might ſend the Trunk aboard as ſoon as he thought fit. The eaſy Husband believed his Wife, and the good Couple went to Bed, *Varniſh* having the Happineſs to paſs the Night in his Miſtreſs's Bed-chamber without Moleſtation. The Morning aroſe, but our Lover was not well ſituated to obſerve her Bluſhes; ſo that all we know of his Sentiments on this Occaſion, is, That he heard *Ballance* ask for the Key, and ſay, he would himſelf go with this Cheſt, and have it opened before the Captain of the Ship, for the greater Safety of ſo valuable a Lading.

The Goods were hoiſted away, and Mr. *Ballance* marching by his Cheſt with great Care and Diligence, omitted nothing that might give his Paſſenger Perplexity. But to conſummate all, he delivered the Cheſt, with ſtrict Charge in caſe they were in Danger of being taken, to throw it over Board, for there were Letters in it, the Matter of which might be of great Service to the Enemy.

N. B. It is not thought adviſeable to proceed further in this Account, Mr. *Varniſh* being juſt returned from his Travels, and willing to conceal the Occaſion of his firſt applying himſelf to the Languages.

St. James's Coffee-houſe, Feb. 20.

This Day came in a Mail from *Holland*, with a Confirmation of our late Advices, that a Treaty of Peace would very ſuddenly be ſet on Foot; and that Yachts were appointed by the States to convey the Miniſters of *France* from *Moerdyke* to *Gertruydenburgh*, which is appointed for the Place wherein this important Negotiation is to be tranſacted. It is ſaid, this Affair has been in Agitation ever ſince the Cloſe of the laſt Campaign, Mr. *Petkum* having been appointed to receive from Time to Time

the

the Overtures of the Enemy. During the whole Winter, the Miniſters of *France* have uſed their utmoſt Skill in forming ſuch Anſwers as might amuſe the Allies, in Hopes of a favourable Event, either in the North, or ſome other Part of *Europe*, which might affect ſome Part of the Alliance too nearly to leave it in a Capacity of adhering firmly to the Intereſt of the Whole. In all this Tranſaction, the *French* King's own Name has been as little made Uſe of as poſſible; but the Seaſon of the Year advancing too faſt to admit of much longer Delays in the preſent Condition of *France*, Monſieur *Torci*, in the Name of the King, ſent a Letter to Monſieur *Pettecum*, wherein he ſays, *That the King is willing all the Preliminary Articles ſhall reſt as they are during the Treaty for the 37th.*

Upon the Receipt of this Advice, Paſſports were ſent to the *French* Court, and their Miniſters are expected at *Moerdyke* on the 5th of the next Month.

Sheer-Lane, February 20.

I have been earneſtly ſollicited for a further Term for wearing the Fardingal by ſeveral of the Fair Sex, but more eſpecially by the following Petitioners.

The humble Petition of Deborah Hark, Sarah Threadpaper, *and* Rachel Thimble, *Spinſters; and ſingle Women, commonly called Waiting-Maids, in Behalf of themſelves and their Siſterhood.*

Sheweth,

'THat your Worſhip hath been pleaſed to order and command, That no Perſon, or Perſons, 'ſhall preſume to wear quilted Petticoats, on Forfeiture of the ſaid Petticoats, or Penalty of wearing Ruffs, after the 17th Inſtant now expired.

'That your Petitioners have Time out of Mind 'been entitled to wear their Ladies Clothes, or to 'ſell the ſame.

'That the Sale of the ſaid Clothes is ſpoiled by 'your Worſhip's ſaid Prohibition.

'Your Petitioners therefore moſt humbly pray, 'That your Worſhip would pleaſe to allow, that 'all Gentlewomen's Gentlewomen may be allowed 'to wear the ſaid Dreſs, or to repair the Loſs of 'ſuch a Perquiſite in ſuch Manner as your Wor'ſhip ſhall think fit.

And your Petitioner &c

I do allow the Allegations of this Petition to be juſt, and forbid all Perſons but the Petitioners, or thoſe who ſhall purchaſe from them, to wear the ſaid Garment after the Date hereof.

Advertiſements.

** PROPOSALS for Printing the LUCUBRATIONS of Iſaac Bickerſtaff Eſq; by Subſcriptions, in Two Volumes in Octavo, on a Large Character, and Fine Royal Paper, are to be ſeen, and Subſcriptions taken, at Charles Lillie's, a Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford Buildings in the Strand, and John Morphew's near Stationers-Hall. All Perſons that deſign to ſubſcribe to this Work, are deſired to ſend their Subſcriptions before the 25th Inſtant, it being intended to print no more than what ſhall be ſubſcribed for, and to begin on the 27th, in order to have it publiſhed before Eaſter.

MEn's *Morning-Gowns, of rich Silks, Stuffs, Calicoes, &c. (being the Goods of a Perſon that failed) to be diſpoſed of at very low Rates; may be ſeen at the Olive-Tree and Still within three Doors of Young Man's Coffee-houſe, againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs. The Prices being ſet on each Gown. Catalogues of the Particulars may be had at the Place of Sale.*

WIlliam Weſt, Mercer, lately Partner with George Noble and William Oſwin, at the Peacock in the New-Exchange, is removed to the Black-Moor's Head in that Exchange, the ſame Walk, and Partner with Robert Sutton.

SIR William Read, Her Majeſty's Oculiſt, whoſe Medicaments have had ſo great an Effect and Succeſs in removing all Obſtructions in the Optick Nerves, and eradicating all vitious Humours, Clouds or Atoms, and infallibly prevent Cataracts in the Beginning, and both clarify, ſtrengthen, and preſerve the Sight, as has been atteſted by many Perſons of Quality and others, who have found the good Effect thereof, is to be adviſed with at his Houſe in Durham-Yard in the Strand, London; where only his ſaid Medicines are to be ſold. He couches the Poor of Cataracts gratis; and alſo takes off Wens, and cures Wry Necks, or Hair-Lips, tho' never ſo deformed.

** There is juſt publiſh'd, The Law of Actions: Being an exact, briet and methodical Collection of all Adjudg'd Caſes out of all the Reports of the Law to this Day; and likewiſe from Roll's Abridgement, correcting the Method thereof: By which any particular Caſe may be preſently found, and the Reaſon that rules it render'd obvious to the meaneſt Capacity. With the Subſtance of the Pleadings in thoſe Actions. Printed for John Hartley between the Two Temple-Gates in Fleet-ſtreet. Pr. 3 s. 6 d. Where any Perſon may have ready Money for any Library or Parcel of Books.

** Sir Cyril Wich's *Library* continues to be ſold every Evening, beginning at 5 of the Clock exactly, at Exeter Exchange. This Night will be ſold, Petrarcha; printed at Venice, by old Aldus, upon Vellum: And ſeveral other very ſcarce Italian Books. As likewiſe, Grævius and Gronovious's Theſaurus, in 25 Vol. and the Collection of Books of Medals, Antiquity and Sculpture, beginning at the 4th, and ending at the 7th Page. Catalogues are ſold at 6d each by E. Curl againſt St. Dunſtan's Church, Fleet-ſtreet; and at the Place for Sale.

** This Day is publiſhed, Mr. Le Clerc's Remarks and Abridgment of the Earl of Clarendon's Hiſtory compleat, in 2 Parts, Pr. 2 s. Penitential Meditations of a Soul touched with Remorſe, for having a long Time profaned the Lord's Prayer, by reciting it without due Attention, and ſufficient Reflections, Pr. 1 s. Both printed for Bernard Lintott, at the Creſs-Keys between the Two Temple Gates in Fleet-ſtreet.

** This Day is publiſhed, A Sermon preached before the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, and Citizens of London, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, on Monday Jan. 30. 1709-10, being the Anniverſary-Faſt for the Martyrdom of King Charles I. By Andrew Snape, D. D. Chaplain to his Grace the Duke of Somerſet, and Rector of St. Mary at Hill. Printed for Jonah Bowyer at the Roſe in Ludgate-ſtreet.

** Juſt publiſhed, The Propitiatory Oblation in the holy Euchariſt truly ſtated and defended, from Scripture, Antiquity, and the Communion Service of the Church of England. In which ſome Notice is taken, of Dr. Hancock's Anſwer to Dr. Hicks; and alſo, of the Lord Biſhop of Norwich's Charge to his Clergy. Printed for J. Morphew near Stationers-hall, and R. Thurlbourne in Cambridge.

** Lately printed, being uſed in Schools, A ſhort Way to know the World, or the Rudiments of Geography; being a new familiar Method of teaching Youth the Knowledge of the Globe, and the Four Quarters of the World. Printed for Tho. Osborne in Grays-Inn, next the Walks. Price bound 2 s.

** The Earl of Torrington's Speech to the Houſe of Commons in November 1690, occaſioned by the Engagement at Sea on the 30th of June that Year, between the Confederate and French Fleets. To which is prefixed, a Draught of the Line of Battel, curiouſly engraven on Copper. Price 1 s. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-noſter-Row.

THeſe are to acquaint the Lovers of Art, That there is an extraordinary Collection of Italian Drawings and Prints of the moſt eminent Painters and Gravers to be ſold by Hand, the loweſt Price being ſet on the Back-ſide of each; ſo that all Gentlemen will at Sight be informed of the Value. Note, that if any Perſon has either fine Drawings, Prints, Pictures, or other Rarities, they may be diſpoſed of in the ſame Manner, paying Poundage for ſuch as are ſold. There is conſtant Attendance from 10 of the Clock in the Morning to 5 in the Afternoon, at the Houſe on the Right Hand going up to the Houſe of Lords in the Old Palace-yard, Weſtminſter.

SIR Theodore Mayern's Opiate for the Teeth; makes them clean and white as Ivory, tho' never ſo black and rotten, faſtens and preſerves them from the Tooth-Ach, being an excellent Thing for preventing and killing the Scurvy; the Quantity of a large Pea rubbed on the Teeth with your Finger every Morning faſting, waſh'd off with clean Water, until you have uſed one of the largeſt Boxes, which will be ſufficient, unleſs greatly troubled with the Scurvy; and then may uſe more as Occaſion requires. Price of the largeſt Boxes 2 s. 6 d. the leſſer 1 s. 3 d. Sold at Mr. Garret's under the Royal Exchange; at John's Coffee-houſe in Swithin's-Alley near the Royal Exchange; at Mr. Jackſon's, a Toyſhop, at the Corner of Wood-ſtreet in Cheapſide; at Sam's Coffee-houſe, Ludgate-hill; at Mrs. Lucas's, a Toyſhop at the Plough in the New Exchange in the Strand; at the Bell at the Weſt End of St. Paul's; at the Comb under St. Dunſtan's Church, Fleet-ſtreet; at Will's Coffee-houſe in Scotland-yard-Gate; and at Mrs. Brecknock's, Milliner, at the upper End of St. James's-ſtreet Piccadilly.

RIght ſuperfine Brazil Snuff, with the beſt Colour and Flavour, is to be ſold at the Perfumer's Shop, at the Gun over-againſt the Playhouſe in the Haymarket, as follows: Such who buy a Pound ſhall have it for 33 s. and but half a Pound, or a Quarter, after the Rate of 36 s. per Pound, which is but 2 s. and 3 d. per Ounce.